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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course including at least one training unit by a computer, comprising:

- requesting a trainee to specify a length of time within which the trainee selects to complete the training course;

- ~~defining~~ requesting the trainee to specify first time units that represent increments of time ~~periods~~ which [[a]] the trainee ~~specifies to~~ selects to spend on [[a]] the training course within said length of time;

- defining second time units that differ from the first time units and represent increments of time ~~periods~~ required by the trainee to actually execute the training units of the training course;

wherein, in response to said ~~defined~~ requested first time units and said defined second time units, the computer automatically:

- creates a progress plan for the execution of the training course in dependence upon the first time units and the second time units, wherein for each training unit the progress plan specifies a time by which the trainee is to have completed the corresponding training unit; and

- monitors as to whether the corresponding training unit has been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 2 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein the computer automatically

notifies the trainee when the corresponding training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 3 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein the computer automatically stores a monitoring result.

Claim 4 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein the computer automatically recreates the progress plan when the training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 5 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 4, wherein the computer automatically terminates the training course when, more than once, the corresponding training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 6 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 5, wherein the computer automatically notifies the trainee of a termination of the training course.

Claim 7 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein the computer automatically sends the progress plan to the trainee after its creation.

Claim 8 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 7, wherein in said sending comprises, making the training units available to the trainee via a computer network.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 8, wherein in said sending comprises, making the training units available to the trainee via at least one of an in-house computer network, a global computer network, an Intranet, or the Internet.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 9, further comprising notifying the trainee via electronic mail when the corresponding training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan or that the training course has been terminated.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 9, further comprising sending the progress plan to the trainee via electronic mail.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 9, further comprising making available the progress plan on a web page to which the trainee has access.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A program product for enabling a computer to perform the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course comprising:

a computer readable medium, and instructions on said computer readable medium for executing the following steps:

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- requesting a trainee to specify a length of time within which the trainee selects to complete the training course;

- ~~defining~~ requesting the trainee to specify first time units that represent increments of time ~~periods~~ which [[a]] the trainee ~~specifies to~~ selects to spend on [[a]] the training course within said length of time;

- defining second time units that differ from the first time units and represent increments of time ~~periods~~ required by the trainee to actually execute the training units of the training course;

wherein, in response to said ~~defined~~ requested first time units and said defined second time units, the computer automatically:

- creates a progress plan for the execution of the training course in dependence upon the first time units and the second time units, wherein for each training unit the progress plan specifies a time by which the trainee is to have completed the corresponding training unit; and

- monitors as to whether the corresponding training unit has been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course comprising at least one unit, characterized in that the computer comprises:

- means for defining first time units that represent time periods which a trainee specifies to spend on a training course;

- means for defining second time units that represent time periods required to execute training units of the training course;

- means for creating a progress plan for the execution of the training course in dependence upon the first time units and the second time units, wherein for each training unit the

progress plan specifies a time by which the trainee is to have completed the corresponding training unit; and

- means for monitoring as to whether the corresponding training unit has been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 16 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 15, further comprising a means for notifying the trainee when the corresponding training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 17 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 15, further comprising a means for storing a monitoring result.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 15, further comprising a means for sending the progress plan to the trainee after its creation.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to claim 15, wherein the computer is connected to a computer.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A computer for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 19, wherein the computer is connected to at least one of an in-house computer network and a global computer network.

Claim 22 (previously presented): A program product for enabling a computer to perform the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 14, wherein the program product is a compact disc or floppy disc.

Claim 23 (new): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein said training course includes a plurality of training units.

Claim 24 (new): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 1, wherein said first time units comprise a number of hours each day the trainee selects to spend on the training course, and wherein the process further comprises:

- requesting the trainee to specify whether the trainee is available to study at weekends or on holidays,

wherein when the computer automatically creates said progress plan in dependence upon the first time units and the second time units, the progress plan is in further dependence upon whether the trainee is available to study at weekends or on holidays.

Claim 25 (new): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course including a plurality of training units by a computer, comprising:

- requesting a trainee to specify a length of time within which the trainee selects to complete the training course;

- presenting a trainee a plurality of categories for selection by the trainee, each category being associated with specific learning behavior patterns;

- defining, based upon the category selected by the trainee, first time units that represent increments of time for the trainee to spend on the training course within the said length of time;

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- defining second time units that differ from the first time units and represent increments of time required by the trainee to actually execute the training units of the training course;

wherein, in response to said defined first time units and said defined second time units, the computer automatically:

- creates a progress plan for the execution of the training course in dependence upon the first time units and the second time units, wherein for each training unit the progress plan specifies a time by which the trainee is to have completed the corresponding training unit; and

- monitors as to whether the corresponding training unit has been completed by the time specified in the progress plan.

Claim 26 (new): A process for the automatic creation and monitoring of a progress plan for a training course according to Claim 25, further comprising the computer automatically:

- implementing measures to motivate the trainee if the corresponding training unit has not been completed by the time specified in the progress plan, said measures selected from the group consisting of drawing attention of the trainee to the time delay, presenting the trainee with additional units to be studied as a penalty, extending a duration of the training course, excluding the trainee from the training course, and a combination thereof.

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